



Special Town Meeting Monday, October 17, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. Abbot School, 25 Depot Street, Westford

We urge you to attend the Special Town Meeting on Monday, October 17th. Two hundred registered voters are required for the meeting to commence. Those not registered to vote in Westford are welcome to attend as observers. The following is a summary of the 13 articles on the warrant to be voted on. The full text of the warrant is posted at the Town Hall, the Town Clerk's office, the post offices, the J.V. Fletcher Library, and online on the town's website, www.westfordma.gov.

Board of Selectmen: Robert Jefferies, Chair; Valerie Wormell, Vice-chair; Andrea Peraner-Sweet, Clerk; Kelly Ross; Jim Sullivan

Financial

Article 1 seeks funding to supplement town departmental operating budgets for the current fiscal year:

- 131 Finance Committee Reserve Fund \$50,000
- 291 Animal Control (Personal Services) \$16,040
- 543 Veterans Services (Personal Services) \$20,618
- 543 Veterans Services (Expenses) \$20,000

We are also seeking to adjust the funding source for the Recreation Enterprise Fund voted under Article 8 of the Annual Town Meeting of March 26, 2011: \$1,204,631 from Recreation Enterprise Revenue to \$1,079,631 from Recreation Enterprise Revenue, \$40,000 from Recreation Enterprise Free Cash, and \$85,000 from General Fund Free Cash.

We are also seeking to adjust the funding source for the Ambulance Enterprise Fund voted under Article 8 of the Annual Town Meeting of March 26, 2011: \$894,435 from Ambulance Enterprise Revenue to \$544,435 from Ambulance Enterprise Revenue, \$150,000 from Ambulance Enterprise Free Cash, and \$200,000 from General Fund Free Cash.

Article 2 will transfer \$6,052 from expenses to personal services within the Animal Control Department budget.

Article 3 - Unpaid Bills from Prior Fiscal Year – the town is being asked to dismiss this article.

Article 4 This Citizen's Petition is asking the town to authorize the Board of Selectmen to purchase the property located at 57 Main Street for general municipal purposes.

Article 5 is seeking a transfer of \$170,000 from the Perchlorate Stabilization Fund for the purpose of providing funds to remediate perchlorate contamination of our public and private water supplies.

Article 6 - Capital Requests – the town is being asked to dismiss this article.

Article 7 is seeking \$1,500,000 to complete water distribution improvements in the Graniteville section of town. This project is needed to improve fire hydrant flow and water quality to the customers in Graniteville by replacing aging and undersized infrastructure.

Article 8 Red Hat, Inc., an open source software company whose research and development headquarters is located in Tech Park West, is seeking approval of a Tax Increment Financing Agreement with the town, to enable it to construct an approximate 100,000 sq. ft. addition, and create at least 181 new computer engineering and other positions.

Article 9 allows the town to set the tax rate.

Article 10 is seeking approval to apply for a \$500k PARC Grant towards the \$2.1M estimated costs to create 4 American Legion (Graniteville) ball fields on the Stepinski parcel; this vote is requirement of the PARC grant application.

General Bylaw Amendments

Article 11 is seeking to amend the definitions of "Pond" and "Freshwater Wetlands" so as to exempt active quarry pits and stormwater control basins from the definitions, and make the local bylaw consistent with the state Wetlands Protection Act Regulations.

Zoning Bylaw Amendments

Article 12 proposes to replace the existing Wireless Communications Facilities zoning bylaw with a more comprehensive new bylaw to regulate Radio Telecommunications Facilities, including cell towers. The article is intended to maximize the town's control over the location and design of such facilities within the limits imposed by federal law. The new bylaw sets out a clear special permit process to be administered by the Board of Appeals.

Land Use

Article 13 is seeking to transfer care and custody of three town-owned land-locked parcels along Vine Brook, currently under the care and custody of the Tax Possession Sale Committee (Parcel 6 on Assessors' Map 6; Parcel 61 on Map 11; and Parcel 9 on Map 12) to the care and custody of the Conservation Commission.



Board of Selectmen
55 Main Street
Westford, MA 01886

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Notification to voters of the **Special Town Meeting**
Monday, October 17, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. at the Abbot School, 25 Depot Street, Westford

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Abbot School

25 Depot Street, Westford

All registered voters are urged to attend!